

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (currently amended): A method of locating difficult access points on a topological map established on the basis of a map of curvilinear distances, ~~characterized in that~~ comprising the steps of: the map of curvilinear distances is ~~analyzed~~ by means of a chamfer mask cataloging the approximate values  $C(V)$  of the Euclidean distances by separating a point  $C_{00}$  of the map from its nearest neighbors  $V$ , so as to extract therefrom, at each point  $C_{00}$  of the map of curvilinear distances, the discrepancies  $|DT(V)-DT(0)|$  of curvilinear distances separating the point considered  $C_{00}$  from its nearest neighbors  $V$ , and ~~compare~~ comparing these discrepancies  $|DT(V)-DT(0)|$  with the approximate values  $C(V)$  of the Euclidean distances of the chamfer mask and describe the point considered as difficult of access when a difference appears.

2. (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein: several thresholds are used during the comparison of the discrepancies of curvilinear distances and Euclidean distances, so as to devise degrees in the importance of the detour required to reach a difficult access point.

3. (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein: the points of the map of curvilinear distances that are regarded as difficult of access are located on the topological map established on the basis of the map of curvilinear distances by a pattern and/or a particular texture.

4. (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the degrees in the importance of the detour required of a difficult access point are evidenced on the topological map by different patterns and/or textures.

5. (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the chamfer mask used for the locating of the difficult access points is of dimension  $3 \times 3$ .

6. (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the chamfer mask used for the locating of the difficult access points is of dimension  $5 \times 5$ .